

**Citizens Police Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 8, 2015
Asheville Police Department**

Present: Councilmember Chris Pelly, Chair Jay Gurney, Debbie Applewhite, Allen Brailsford, Fred Cooke, Carol Rogoff Hallstrom, Larry Holt, Interim Chief Steve Belcher, Sgt Michael Lamb, Paul Fetherston, John Maddux

Guests: Ellen Pitt, WNC MADD

Meeting: Called to order by Chair Gurney at 3:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- March minutes were approved as revised

Presentation: Ellen Pitt (MADD-WNC)

Ms. Pitt represents MADD for 17 WNC counties and is a Certified Victim Specialist and Court Monitor, and spoke to three issues:

- Support for a pending bill in NC Senate, SB 671, DL Restoration / DWI Treatment Court (see below in its entirety)
- Concern for escalating number of children endangered by impaired drivers
- She asked, on behalf of the crime victims that she serves, that the committee support and nurture the officers of the APD

APD & City Staff Update

Update on the implementation of the strategic plan

- Chief Belcher gave the update; Chief Burnette back to AFD, but will stay involved with the plan for the foreseeable future; all police Lieutenants now involved in planning areas to ensure continual communication between various employee groups and ranks involved with on a day to day basis; Chief Burnette, DC and Captains will now be board to review team progress; Councilman Pelly will play informational role in updating CPAC; question was raised as to what was being done to recruiting quality minority representation; Planning Area Recruitment & Retention addressing this area. Chief commented it is a difficult task that will require significant outreach.

Update on the search for the new Chief of Police

- Paul Fetherston, Assistant City Manager, gave the update; application process to recruiters closed Apr 4; now being screened and forwarded to CMO in early May for review; interviews May 18/19; public presentations/ meet & greet on 18th; working out details; suggestion to coordinate with YWCA for child care

Update from Chief Belcher

- Introduction of Christina Hallingse, new Public Information Officer (PIO) dedicated to the APD part of city PIO team.

Unfinished Business

Festival of Neighborhoods presentation

- Ms. Applewhite and Mr. Holt attended the Festival of Neighborhoods event on behalf of CPAC; 2nd time event organized by the Neighborhood Advisory Committee; over 100 participants with 30+ neighborhoods represented; shared role of CPAC; gave pitch for Citizens Police Academy; Lt Hawkins gave overview of SOP and planning area she is in charge of; made it “user friendly”

Location and date of first neighborhood CPAC meeting

- After discussion, Chair Gurney will approach NAC to get on their agenda for their meeting in East Asheville on May 18; will keep committee updated; if get on agenda, will cancel May 6 meeting

Progress on updating the guiding language of CPAC

- motion made to maintain current guiding language, with the word replacing ; vote: 6 – 0 in favor of motion; Sgt Lamb, Mr. Joslin, Mr. Holt, Chair Gurney, Ms. Applewhite and Mr. Cooke voted in support of the motion; Ms. Rogoff Hallstrom and Mr. Brailsford abstained

National Night Out Planning

- Ms. Applewhite gave the update; she is working with Marsha Stickford on event; past several years has been a centralized event; considering this year to move it out to neighborhoods / communities

New Business

Does CPAC have a role in implementing recommendations made in the organizational assessment completed by Matrix?

- Mr. Fetherston responded that it is the City Manager’s responsibility to implement with the APD; still working through how best to implement; plan to present to PSC in May; goal is to maintain and sustain healthy culture

Ad-Hoc members of CPAC

- Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Review of expectations of CPAC members

- Attend 75% of meetings; do community outreach – opportunity to share concerns and good work done by APD folks; regional representation; bring forward issues that impact community relationships with APD; discussion on voting protocol related to abstaining – City Manager’s Office/ City Attorney’s Office to report back

Community Outreach

South – Mr. Joslin

- Is having a hard to contacting neighborhood representatives but working hard to do so

North – Ms. Rogoff Hallstrom

- Peaceful and quiet in North Asheville; planning for neighborhood picnic; participated in Stop the Violence Press conference; pleased to work regularly with Pastor Ogden and others

Downtown – Mr. Holt

- More activity downtown as weather warms up; more transients as weather warms up; DARN has functions to meet members of the DTU; officers are great about going around and meeting with businesses and residents; DTU is good about foot patrol (vs car); issues are mostly between midnight and 3:00a; very pleased with DTU.

Housing – Chair Gurney

- Police personnel have met with Housing Authority representatives. Outcome - to do additional community outreach and agreed to goal of implementing community meetings in each housing area; First meeting in Pisgah View to get feedback about works best for residents.

West – Mr. Brailsford

- Lots of construction and folks complaining about traffic on Riverview Drive; is both housing construction and New Belgium Brewery; traffic calming has been great addition

East – Ms. Applewhite

- Little activity in East Asheville; attended both the Haw Creek Association meeting and the Beverly Hills annual meeting; program was identity theft; highly recommended that all attend Coffee With A Cop on April 11; the one held in East Asheville was great

Ad Hoc – Mr. Cooke

- questioned status of body cams for APD – Council has already endorsed, pilot program is finished, going to PSC in April for recommendation for sole source standardization contract to purchase; asked that Senate Bill 671 be attached to the minutes; appreciate all the support they can get; Sgt Fowler is his hero in life by getting alcohol impaired drivers off the road

APD Representative - Sgt Lamb

- Met with a some attendees who gave public comment at the March meeting to address questions they raised re funding for public housing officers; have started internal group to increase partnership with community; plan together to be as balanced as can be – enforcement and prevention

Public Comment

(After discussion, the number of persons who can give public comment was stricken from the agenda.)

Issues raised during public comment:

- Suggestion made to do parallel (external) survey to Matrix (internal) Report; would be good to have community perspective of department and how policing being done
- Suggestion made to move meeting time to encourage more public participation
- Excitement expressed that body cams will soon to be implemented as it will hold law enforcement accountable; suggestion made that storage and retention SOP be in place prior to rolling out
- Suggestion made that committee members raise their voices when speaking, as it was quite often difficult to hear them
- Committee thanked for their service

Adjourned: 5:00p

Next Meeting Date: May 6, 3:00p

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015**

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SENATE BILL 671

Short Title: DL Restoration/DWI Treatment Court. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Apodaca, Van Duyn, J. Davis (Primary Sponsors); and Hartsell.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 30, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO
CONDITIONALLY RESTORE THE DRIVERS LICENSE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE
SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A DRUG TREATMENT OR DWI TREATMENT
COURT PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-19 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(d1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when a person's license is revoked for an impaired driving offense and sentenced pursuant to G.S. 20-179, the Division may conditionally restore the person's license after it has been revoked for at least one year if the person provides the Division with (i) a certificate of graduation from a Drug Treatment or Driving While Impaired (DWI) Treatment Court Program established pursuant to Article 62 of Chapter 7A of the General Statutes and (ii) a letter of recommendation from the presiding judge of the Drug Treatment or DWI Treatment Court. If the Division restores the person's license, it shall place all of the following restrictions, requirements, and conditions on the person for the duration of the original revocation period:

- (1) A restriction that the applicant may operate only a designated motor vehicle.
- (2) A requirement that the designated motor vehicle be equipped with a functioning ignition interlock system of a type approved by the Commissioner, which is set to prohibit driving with an alcohol concentration of greater than 0.00.
- (3) A requirement that the applicant personally activate the ignition interlock system before driving the motor vehicle.

In addition, the Division may place other reasonable restrictions, requirements, and conditions on the person for the duration of the original revocation period."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2015.